

# HERE AND THERE

**PURE-JET TRANSPORT:** The Vickers Nene-Viking, which already has several hours' flying behind it, is seen under construction at Wisley. This machine—a development of the standard 24-passenger version—has twin-wheel main undercarriage units. It is intended solely for research.



## Canadair-Four Perhaps

ALTHOUGH both the Ministry of Civil Aviation and B.O.A.C. refused comment, it was reported from a source quoting the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, at the time of going to press, that final details of a contract to supply B.O.A.C. with Canadair-Fours were being worked out.

## Meteor IV Displayed at Bordeaux

AT the French Air Force Display at Bordeaux on Sunday, June 6th, a Gloster Meteor Mark IV was flown by Rodney Dryland, the Gloster test pilot. The Meteor will be on show at the Bordeaux Exhibition from June 13th to 27th.

## Lumberjacks

TWENTY ex-R.A.F. officers and air-men have almost completed a two-year course in forestry at Huntley Manor, Gloucestershire. Six of the men obtained posts as foresters on estates throughout the country after only 18 months' training, and three others have been promised good jobs as soon as housing accommodation is ready. This has been one of a series of courses financed with money given to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund by Mr. Charles P. Ackers, a leading forestry expert, in memory of his son (a fighter-pilot killed in action in Normandy) and administered by the Resettlement department of the Air Ministry.

## Cloud Height Measurement

A MERCURY arc projector, used in conjunction with a photo cell pick-up unit, has been introduced by the U.S. Weather Bureau for measuring the height of clouds and rain ceilings up to a height of 20,000 feet. An intense beam of modulated light is directed against the cloud, the spot formed on the base of the cloud being detected by the pick-up unit. The height is then determined automatically by triangulation.

## Hawker Appointments

MR. T. D. M. ROBERTSON has been appointed general manager of Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., and Mr. J. T. Lidbury has been appointed secretary. Mr. Robertson joined the company as chief accountant in 1934 and became assistant secretary in 1941. He became secretary in 1942 and was elected to the board in 1946. Mr. Ridbury has been

connected with Hawkers since 1938; in 1942 he became personnel manager and coupled with this position that of assistant secretary.

## "You Can't Laugh It Off"

NOW that Bill ("Raff") Hooper has issued his new work, entitled as above, the study and cultivation of the moustache can hardly fail to flourish anew. This scholarly work, which treats of the forms and history of facial flora, is obtainable—price 2s—from the Windsor Press, Trading Estate, Slough, Bucks.

## Peace-making Dakota

A SPECIAL K.L.M. Dakota has been chartered for the use of Count Folke Bernadotte, the mediator in the present Palestine conflict. This aircraft is painted white and bears the Red Cross markings and the words United Nations; it is to be commanded by Commander A. Viruly, senior pilot of K.L.M., and will carry Count Bernadotte and his staff of 15 on their visits to all countries in the Near East.

## Edinburgh Air Display

A DISPLAY of aerobatics, formation take-offs, simulated attacks on the airfield and interception by fighters will be put on by units of Reserve Command at Turnhouse airfield on June 12th. Activities will range to a height of 10,000ft and occupy a radius of eight nautical miles, and pilots not concerned with the display or not on scheduled flights to Turnhouse are advised to avoid flying in this area between the hours of 1300 and 1630 G.M.T.

## High-speed Production

DURING the T.T. races in the Isle of Man on June 7th, 9th and 11th, *The Motor Cycle*, one of the Associated Iliffe group of publications, is working to a special high-speed schedule to bring out its June 10th issue two days before nominal publication date. Photographs and reports of the first day's racing were flown from the Island to London by specially chartered aircraft and the complete issue, with a full, illustrated commentary on the race, prepared overnight at Dorset House. On Tuesday, June 8th, the Cornwall Press having completed their work, copies were flown back to the Island so as to be available on the course soon after lunch, less than 24 hours after the

actual race. A second issue, dated June 17th, will provide a complete record of all the remaining races.

## College of Aeronautics Syllabus Extended

THE Board of Governors of the College of Aeronautics has, after careful investigation of the problem of teaching those aspects of aeronautics not covered by the existing courses, instituted a Chair of Aircraft Economics and Production. It is proposed that all students shall have the opportunity of obtaining instruction in the organization, administration, manufacture and production design of aircraft and engines. In addition to thus widening the syllabus, facilities for advanced specialization in this field are to be provided. The first of the new courses will start, if possible, at the beginning of the new term in October.

## Flying Wing Crash

IT has been reported from America that a Northrop YB-49 crashed while on a test flight at Muroc Field, California. The crew of five lost their lives. The YB-49 is an eight-jet bomber of the "flying wing" type and has an all-up weight of between 90 and 100 tons.

## Russian Rewards

A NUMBER of Russian aircraft designers have recently been awarded Stalin prizes for their work. Alexander Yakovlev, designer of the Yak fighter, gained a first class Stalin award for the sixth time for a new type of military aircraft, doubtless the single-jet fighter now in service. The two Russians jointly responsible for the Mig-1 and Mig-3 fighters have been awarded first class prizes for the second year in succession. They too have designed a jet fighter. The designers of the La-5 fighter and the TB-7 bomber have also received first class prizes. A Stalin award, first class, amounts to 150,000 roubles, or about £7,000.

## U.S. Gas Turbine Approved by C.A.A.

THE model 400-C-4 gas turbine produced by the Allison engine division of General Motors has been approved by the American Civil Aeronautics Administration for commercial transport aircraft; it is the first U.S. jet to receive this approval. This engine has been used